

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 2, 3, 5-14, 16, 18-25, 27, and 29-33 would remain pending and under current examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in light of the following remarks.

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 1-8, 11, 12, 14-20, 22, 23, 25-28, 30, 31, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,931,943 to Orup ("*Orup*"); the rejection of claims 1-8, 11, 12, 14-20, 22, 23, 25-28, 30, 31, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,995,991 to Huang et al. ("*Huang*"); and the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-9, 15-17, and 26-28 under nonstatutory double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19, and 20 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/035,586.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), at least for the reasons set forth in the Request for Reconsideration filed July 29, 2005 and for the reasons in the Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review filed September 30, 2005. Nevertheless, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant hereby amends claims 9, 10, 13, 21, 24, 29, and 32 into independent form, amends dependent claims to maintain antecedent basis, and cancels claims 1, 4, 15, 17, 26, and 28. The Examiner indicated claims 9, 10, 13, 21, 24, 29, and 32 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims" at page 7 of the Office Action mailed September 15,

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

2004. Accordingly, because Applicant has amended these claims into independent form as suggested by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment and issue a Notice of Allowance.

Applicant also submits concurrently herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate the nonstatutory double patenting rejection.

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing this application in condition for allowance. Applicant submits that the proposed amendments of the claims do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

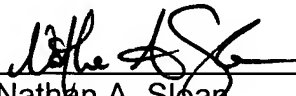
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 24, 2006

By: 
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Attachments: Terminal Disclaimer (3 pages).